

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 08721 061636Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6528

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 8721

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TU CY GR

SUBJ: GREEK PRESS COMMENT ON TURKISH MILITARY AID

REF ATHENS 8722 STATE 267853

FOR AMBASSADOR KUBISCH FROM STEARNS

1. THE KATHIMERINI EDITORIAL WHICH WE HAVE TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL IS THE ONLY COMMENT TO DATE ON YOUR HILL APPEARANCE. I HAVE ASKED THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER TO RESPOND TO ANY PRESS QUERIES THAT HE MAY RECEIVE BY SAYING THAT WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE MET "INFORMALLY AND PRIVATELY WITH SOME AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN TO DISCUSS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GREECE BUT HAVE EXPRESSED NO VIEW ON THE QUESTION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY." THERE HAVE BEEN NO RPT NO QUERIES TO DATE AND UNLESS, CONTRARY TO OUR EXPECTATIONS, ADDITIONAL COMMENT ON YOUR WASHINGTON VISIT APPEARS OVER WEEKEND, IT SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE NECESSARY TO ISSUE A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS.

2. I SHALL BE IN TOUCH WITH TZOUNIS THIS EVENING AND WILL ADVISE HIM OF THE NATURE OF YOUR CONGRESSIONAL CONTACTS TO AVOID ANY MISCONCEPTION THAT HE OR BITSIOS MAY HAVE GAINED FROM KATHIMERINI EDITORIAL. STEARNS

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